

MAKE THE MOST OF IT

When a high government official is arrested on the public streets for drunkenness as a disturber of the peace; when a public official of this city so far forgets his dignity as to parade his drunkenness in public; when boys who are still attending school hold drunken orgies in public places; and when public officials sworn to enforce the law offer themselves as a shield for the protection of those who violate it, it is time to call a halt.

RESOLUTIONS

The cheerful custom of wishing one's friends a Happy New Year is a good old custom as far as it goes. The atmosphere of good will created by such hearty greetings is charged with possibilities of helpfulness and constructive co-operation. And those things help to make any year happy.

But well wishers and those for whom they wish may well remind themselves on New Year's Day that it is largely within their own power to make the new year a happy one for themselves and for the community in which they live. To do this simply requires taking thought and action to make the wish come true.

And here we come to what we call the good old New Year resolutions. According to the jokesmiths, the good resolutions of the first day of the year rarely survive the month. But supposing that only a few of them hold out for a good part of the year. If they have been made with a positive purpose to improve one's thought or habits or surroundings, rather than with a mere negative purpose not to repeat some of the mistakes of the past, they cannot help but avail something. And if resolutions do nothing more, at least they are a recognition of weakness and of the need of a new and constructive purpose. For example, imagine families who now find the struggle for existence a hard one resolving to establish a budget for the coming year. Would they not fare better? Imagine others resolving to take better care of their health by conforming to the simple laws of nature. And imagine still others looking their faults in the face and resolving to replace their chronic worries with wholesome and constructive thought. Is there any doubt that their lot would be far happier? Suppose a whole new group of persons—or nations—took to heart some of the practical suggestions in the Sermon on the Mount and resolved to be merciful, to be righteous, to make peace and to deal fairly with all men. Imagine them keeping their resolutions. Would it not be a happier new year?

NEAR-EASTERN ATROCITIES

A recent communication issued by the Turkish delegation at Lausanne accuses the Greeks of confiscating all the farms belonging to Moslems in Crete, and says that the Turkish residents in the hills, fearing massacre, have fled to the cities and are dying there of hunger.

All this sounds strangely familiar. It is natural to suspect the veracity of any statement from Turkish sources, yet it may be true. And true or false, it represents the Greeks as doing in Crete precisely what the Turks have done on a far bigger scale in Asia Minor and on numerous occasions in the Balkans. They were accused of massacring Turks when their army first entered Smyrna.

Sometimes an American reader wonders whether there is really much to choose between the hostile races in that whirlpool of human rivalry and hatred at the eastern end of the Mediterranean. It is natural to pity them all, distrust them all, and rejoice that we are far away.

TOO MUCH COAL

The United States is suffering from too much coal—in the ground. The federal coal commission finds that the mines now open, and ready for operation even if they are not operated, could produce a

billion tons of coal a year instead of the half-billion tons actually produced.

The commission, therefore, warns new capital away from soft coal mines.

That is obviously a sensible warning. Yet how is it to be made effective? There is human nature to consider, as well as coal. When a farmer or lessee discovers what looks like a paying vein of coal, it is human to want to work it. It is natural for operators to want to open new fields and for investors, familiar with stories of fortunes made in coal, to want to put money into promising ventures. So new mines are opened right along, multiplying equipment and personnel and overhead cost, and the whole industry suffers from excessive power of production. Many lose money, but there are always new optimists coming along.

BY THE WAY

The Old World can do a lot for herself by replacing a few national aspirations with a lot of national perspiration.

One-third of the persons in large cities suffer from eye-strain. One-third just about comprises the entire population over 20 years of age.

Allies demand that the Greek revolutionary cabinet resign, but the members may be reluctant. They established a precedent for disposal of ex-ministers.

The imperial gizzard of the Ku Klux Klan says his pillow-case gang stands for "Americanism." There is an opinion already prevalent regarding the birds who proclaim their Americanism.

Of course we hope for a good year in 1923, but it must be admitted that having the Skjellerup comet running around loose in the sky complicates the outlook a little.

DUG OUT BY ROOT

Those who go down to the sea in ships, in this decadent, dissolute day, are seeking more often for spiritual nips than for sea air, the newspapers say.

A piper once entered the village. His tunes raised goose flesh on the hide of a housewife at work making pastry. And that's why the piper was piced.

There are those who believe that Crippin will become Creaky during his bout with Johnny Kilbane.

The temperature on the moon is at the boiling point a part of the time, a scientist tells us. Which seems to indicate that elections are occasionally held on the planet. Or world's series ball games.

Doesn't the man who greets the New Year's morning in a dress suit sometimes hang an unnecessary handicap on himself?

There was once a musical hobo, who played on a half-defunct oboe. Folks hearing the tones threw tin cans and stones and yelled at that hobo, "Now Go Ho."

The Christmas candy in many Albuquerque homes is about gone. Which means that the caster oil bottle will come into use about 7:30 this evening.

The tumult and the shouting dies, the football players leave the stage. The weary student straightway hies to basketball, the newest rage.

Down Portales way, the car driven by T. W. Tow ran into the auto of J. A. Morrow. As the collision was not violent, none of those concerned was ushered into a happy Tow-Morrow.

Albuquerque Twenty Years Ago

The secretary of the treasury gives the following reasons for the erection of a federal building in Albuquerque:

"Albuquerque is the center of a large commercial territory and is the largest city in New Mexico, having a population of 6,238, according to the census of 1900. There has been a continued growth in the past of both the city and the postal business, with every promise of a larger growth in the near future. In the fifteen years from 1887 to 1902 there has been an increase in the postal business in the Albuquerque postoffice from \$9,450 to \$22,756. . . . It is believed that a three-story building should be provided covering an area of 4,800 square feet. The estimated cost of the building, including elevator, vaults, heating apparatus, etc., is about \$200,000 exclusive of site."

New Year's social functions were given at the Commercial club, a dance; at the home of B. E. Roddy, where a party was given in honor of Master Shannon B. Roddy; the home of Miss Euphemia Nelson, a progressive euchre; the home of Mrs. Bernard Hild, where the fascinating game of "Liberty Cat" was played; at the home of George Campfield, where a surprise party was given for Miss Ada Campfield, attended by Misses Helen Roddy, Mabel Strong, Susie Dobson, Mildred Fox, Gladys Childers; Messrs. Raymond Stamm, Will Pratt, Frank Springer, Ralph Tascher and Lloyd Sturges; at the home of Willie Fraser, where a surprise party was given by Frank Lewis, Lonora Lewis, Edward Lewis, Clarence McSpadden, James Cole, George Mann, John McKinnle, Harry Fredericks, Gladys Hanley, George Hoogland.

Attorney Modesto Ortiz has been called to Santa Fe by the serious illness of his father.

Miss Bertha Staab of Santa Fe is the guest of Albuquerque friends.

Six hundred pounds of dressed poultry went from Farmington to Durango for the Christmas holiday tables.

In a ravine seven miles from Gallup has been discovered the frozen body of Angus McCue, a Scotch rancher, who for 20 years has lived in the Zuni mountains.

TODAY'S BEST THOUGHT

Call a truce, then, to our labors, Let us feast with friends and neighbors, And be merry as the custom of our caste, —KIPLING.

THE NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTERS ARE BUSY

